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(f) whether the Government propose to take up the management of the Mills into their own hands and work the same or whether they intend handing over the management to any European or Indian concern; and

(g) if the latter be the case, whether the Government will be pleased to place any correspondence that has taken place in that connexion on the table?

A.—(a) The Member's attention is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 442 given on 27th August 1927. A further loan of Rs. 7,000 has since been advanced. The Company's total dues to Government till the end of June 1927 amounted to Rs. 1,25,600.

(b) According to the Audit Report for 1926-27 this amounted to Rs. 1,22,081-11-6.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) to (g) The Member's attention is drawn to the answer to clauses (d) and (e) of the question referred to in clause (a) above.

Establishment of a coconut farm in the Central Delta, East Godavari.

* 1434 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations were made to the Government requesting that a coconut farm be established in the Central Delta, East Godavari;

(b) whether the Government replied that one would be established when funds are available;

(c) whether the Government have subsequently considered the question of establishing a farm;

(d) whether experiments in coir-making are being carried on at Ambajeeepeta; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to call for and publish the report of the working of the experiments at Ambajeeepeta with the results and conclusions thereon?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government did not promise a farm for this particular locality. But the Government understand that the Director of Agriculture has replied in 1926 to the East Godavari District Association that their request for a station would be borne in mind and that the requisite staff and funds were not then available.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The experiments related to coir-retting. They have been concluded but have not yielded satisfactory results. The report^a of the Director of Industries is placed on the table.

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Amendment of the State Aid to Industries Act.

* 1435 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer to my question No. 1082 answered on 2nd November 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether Government are taking steps to amend the present State Aid to Industries Act so that aid may be given to cottage industry workers acting in partnership with non-working capitalists who are prepared to co-operate with them with their share capital ?

A.—No.

Aid to nascent and old industries.

* 1436 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether Government have under consideration the amendment of the State Aid to Industries Act so as to aid old as well as nascent industries and, if not, why not ?

A.—The Act already provides for grant of State Aid to nascent industries.

The Government have not yet examined the need for aid to old and established industries and no amendment to the Act is therefore under consideration.

Public Works*Contributions for the construction of the Women and Children's Hospital, Mangalore.*

* 1437 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have examined the rules regarding the centage contribution to the Public Works Department in connexion with the Women and Children's Hospital extension work in Mangalore ;

(b) whether the rules require that private and municipal bodies contributing for the extension and improvement of a Government institution like the Women and Children's Hospital in Mangalore should bear centage charges ;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to suitably alter the present rules so that private donations for such purposes may not be discouraged in future ; and

(d) whether the Government have passed any order or have come to any decision regarding the request of the Mangalore Hospital Extension Committee not to make any percentage reduction ?

A.—The Government have since re-examined the question whether centage charges are leviable in the case of Government works towards which private gentlemen or local bodies contribute a portion of the cost and have decided that they are not. This decision applies to the case of the Women and Children's Hospital at Mangalore.